

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission
2019 Recreational Fishing Regulations
For Striped Bass in Virginia's Marine Waters**

Coastal Season January 1 - March 31, 2019
and May 16 - December 31, 2019
Possession Limit 1 per person
Minimum Size Limit 28 inches

Coastal Regulations:

Apply in Virginia's coastal ocean waters inside the Three Mile Limit Line, plus all of the creeks, bays, inlets and tributaries on the seaside of Accomack County, Northampton County (including areas east of the causeway from Fisherman Island to the mainland) and the City of Virginia Beach (including federal areas and state parks, fronting on the Atlantic Ocean and east and south of the point where the shoreward boundary of the Territorial Sea joins the mainland at Cape Henry).

Chesapeake Area Season (Spring) May 16 - June 15, 2019
Possession Limit 2 per person
Minimum Size Limit 20 inches
Maximum Size Limit 28 inches

Chesapeake Area Regulations Apply in the main stem of the Chesapeake Bay and its Virginia tributaries. Refer to the reverse side of this card for information pertaining to Potomac River "open seasons."

At the April 23, 2019 Commission Meeting, the Commission unanimously approved adopting the emergency amendments to Chapter 4 VAC 20-252-10 ET SEQ. to eliminate the 2019 Spring Striped Bass Trophy Season for the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, the Virginia tributaries of the Potomac River and the Virginia Coastal waters. The Commission has advertised a May public hearing on these amendments.

Chesapeake Area Season (Fall) October 4 – December 31, 2019
Possession Limit 2 per person
Minimum Size Limit 20 inches
Maximum Size Limit* 28 inches

*Except only one of the two fish possession limit may be greater than 28 inches during fall season.

Measurements – Size limits are in total length; fish must be measured from the most forward projection of the snout, with the mouth closed, to the tip of the longer lobe of the tail fin, with the tail compressed along the midline, using a straight-line measure, not over the curve of the body.

For more information visit the Virginia Marine Resources Commission internet website at

www.mrc.virginia.gov

MAY 2019

**Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Important Information Concerning
Saltwater Fishing Regulations
For Striped Bass**

Regulations in Spawning Reaches of Virginia's Tributary Rivers

Regulations in the spawning reaches of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay tributary rivers are the same as the regulations for Chesapeake Bay.

Federal Waters Regulations

Atlantic Ocean waters beyond the Three Mile Limit Line are closed to taking and possession of striped bass all year.

Potomac River Striped Bass Regulations

Please contact the Potomac River Fisheries Commission (PRFC) for information on regulations governing the striped bass harvest in the Potomac River, except for the Trophy Season May 1-June 15, and the Spring, Summer-Fall seasons of the Virginia tributaries of the Potomac River. Contact information for the PRFC office is 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach, VA 22443, (804) 224-7148, or (800) 266-3904 or on the internet at <http://www.prfc.us/>

Illegal to Gaff Striped Bass

Gaffing Striped Bass or attempting to gaff Striped Bass is illegal in Virginia Marine Waters.

**All Regulations are Subject to Change.
It is the Angler's Responsibility to Know and
Abide by all Current Regulations and Laws
Check for New Regulations Before You Go Fishing.**

Regulations are subject to review and change throughout the year. Information on the most current regulations can be obtained from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, 2600 Washington Ave., Third Floor, Newport News, Virginia 23607, (757) 247-2200; from the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, located at 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Fort Monroe, VA 23651, (757) 491-5160 and from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission internet website at

www.mrc.virginia.gov



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